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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/933,528      | 08/20/2001  | Christophe Person    | LXGN-00104          | 8324             |

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EXAMINER

BRUSCA, JOHN S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1631

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/933,528

Applicant(s)

PERSON, CHRISTOPHE

Examiner

John S. Brusca

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2006.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,5-9,16,18-33 and 39 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) 39 is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,5-9,16,18-33 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 13 September 2005 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 2, 3, 5-9, 16, 18-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The claims are drawn to a method of constructing a repeat sequence database comprising a step of masking a query sequence with repeat sequences to create a contig assembly. The specification describes on pages 16-17 creation of a contig assembly after a pairwise alignment from a comparison of a masked sequence with a redundant sequence database. This process is described as including step 209 of figure 2, which illustrates comparison of a masked query sequence to a redundant sequence database.

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4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 2, 3, 5-9, 16, 18-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 2, 3, 5-9, 16, 18-33 are indefinite for recitation of the phrase in claim 2 "known repeat sequences" because it is not clear to whom and when the sequences were known. The rejection would be overcome by deletion of the term "known."

Claims 2, 3, 5-9, 16, 18-33 are indefinite for recitation of the phrase in claim 2 "masking said query sequence with repeat sequences in the repeat sequence database to create a contig assembly" because it is not clear how a process of masking results in a contig.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The rejection of claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 18-20, 27, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurka et al. (1996) in the Office action mailed 13 April 2005 is withdrawn in view of the amendment to claim 2 filed 12 September 2006 limiting the method to include a step of creating a contig assembly after masking.

7. The rejections of claims 2, 6, 16, 19-24, 26-29, and 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurka et al. (1996) as applied to claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 18-20, 27, and 30 above, and further in view of Altschul et al. in the Office action mailed 13 April 2005 is withdrawn in view of the amendment to claim 2 filed 12 September 2006 limiting the method to include a step of creating a contig assembly after masking.

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8. The rejection of claims 2, and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurka et al. (1996) as applied to claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 18-20, 27, and 30 above, and further in view of Jurka (1998) in the Office action mailed 13 April 2005 is withdrawn in view of the amendment to claim 2 filed 12 September 2006 limiting the method to include a step of creating a contig assembly after masking.

9. The rejection of claims 2, 22, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jurka et al. (1996) as applied to claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 18-20, 27, and 30 above, and further in view of Sohocki et al. in the Office action mailed 13 April 2005 is withdrawn in view of the amendment to claim 2 filed 12 September 2006 limiting the method to include a step of creating a contig assembly after masking.

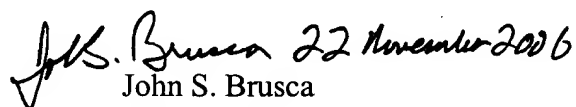
### ***Conclusion***

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John S. Brusca whose telephone number is 571 272-0714. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Wang can be reached on 571 272-0811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
John S. Brusca  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1631

jsb